

a³
cont 4. (Amended) A DNA coding for the polypeptide of any one of claims 1 to 3, or the DNA of SEQ ID NO: 2.

6. (Amended) A DNA which hybridizes with the DNA of claim 4 under stringent conditions, and codes for a polypeptide having transaldolase activity.

a⁴ 7. (Amended) A recombinant DNA obtained by ligating the DNA of claim 4 with a vector.

a⁵ 9. (Amended) A transformant in which one or more nucleotides have been substituted, deleted or inserted in the nucleotide sequence of the DNA carried by the transformant of claim 8 or in the nucleotide sequence of a DNA existing upstream the DNA and participating in transcription and translation, and of which the transaldolase activity is enhanced over that of the transformant not having undergone the substitution, deletion or insertion.

10. (Amended) The transformant according to claim 8, wherein the transformant has an ability to produce an aromatic amino acid or aromatic vitamin.

a⁶ 12. (Amended) A transformant in which one or more nucleotides have been substituted, deleted or inserted in the nucleotide sequence of the DNA carried by the transformant of claim 8 or in the nucleotide sequence of a DNA existing upstream the DNA and participating in transcription and translation, and of which the transaldolase activity is lowered below that of the transformant not having undergone the substitution, deletion or insertion, or of which the transaldolase activity is lost.

Q6
cont

13. (Amended) The transformant according to claim 8, wherein the transformant has an ability to produce a substance selected from L-histidine, riboflavin, nucleic acids and nucleic acid-associated substances.

15. (Amended) A process for producing a polypeptide, which comprises culturing the transformant of claim 8 in a medium to thereby produce and accumulate the polypeptide in the culture, and recovering the polypeptide from the culture.

Q7

16. (Amended) A process for producing a saccharide having the dihydroxyacetone moiety of the ketose transferred into the aldose, which comprises allowing a ketose and an aldose to exist in an aqueous medium to coexist with an enzyme source selected from cells of the transformant of claim 9, a culture of the transformant or a processed product of the culture, to thereby produce and accumulate the saccharide in the aqueous medium, and recovering the saccharide from the aqueous medium.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to correct their dependency and conformity with accepted U.S. practice and the specification has been changed to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.